

# The Observer

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Have a comment on one of our articles? Write a letter to the editor! Email responses, rebuttals, and commentaries to Co-Editors-in-Chief, Kylie Hill at [khw10051@saintjoe.edu](mailto:khw10051@saintjoe.edu) or Alyssa Cook at [acw10024@saintjoe.edu](mailto:acw10024@saintjoe.edu) to have them published in our next issue!

## SJC Celebrates Diversity on MLK Day

By Lauren Grasham

News Writer

Martin Luther King Jr. Day was on Monday, January 16, and SJC had no problems organizing multiple events to celebrate the holiday. The first one took place the day before. The movie, *The Great Debaters*, a story about a debate team at a historically black college, was shown in the ballroom that evening.

On the holiday itself, the school held a march in honor of King. Participants were bused to the Jasper County Courthouse in downtown Rensselaer where the march began. It lasted a half hour as the group walked from their starting point all the way back to Saint Joseph's College. Following the march, a presentation was given in the Shen Auditorium.

The program, as well as the other events, were put on with the help of Vice President of Academic Affairs Chad Pulver, Associate Professor of English April Toadvine, the Diversity Coalition, and the Black Student Union. It started out with Toadvine addressing the crowd and thanking everyone for their attendance, following the opening prayer by Tony Butler of Campus Ministry. Pulver then welcomed the crowd, and when he was finished, senior Erich Davies played the National Anthem on his saxophone.

Antonia Thomas, the president of the Diversity Coalition, was the next speaker. Her speech focused on the comparisons between what society is like now versus when King was alive. She explained how important it is to

use nonviolence when standing up for something you believe in. "Education is the key to success and change," she stated when describing how people should be like King and use thoughts rather than violence. She concluded her segment by stating that everyone should "be that person that speaks up for Dr. King."

Cheryl Wistrom, Associate Professor of Chemistry, followed Thomas and presented the winners of the essay contest. There

then presented with awards for their work and leadership skills. Associate Professor of Math and Chemistry Marge McIlwain was rewarded for outstanding contributions to Martin Luther King. Spencer Conroy, Vice President for Business Affairs, and Br. Tim Hemm of Campus Ministry were rewarded for their leadership skills.

The main portion of the program revolved around the guest speaker, Samuel Ifeanyi



Above: Students, faculty, staff, and community members walk through Rensselaer to promote diversity on Martin Luther King Junior Day. Photo courtesy of Fr. Tim McFarland

were three different contests for different age groups, and each group was given a theme for their paper. The elementary division wrote about the dream they have for the country. In the next division, county middle schools described what King would think of our society today. The winner from SJC was freshman, Margaret McMurtry, whose essay was about what she believed King would do today about the situation between the African Americans and the police. Faculty members were

"Vop" Osili Jr. He was a former candidate for Indiana Secretary of State and is currently serving as a member of the Indianapolis district. He began his speech by talking about his experiences with running for office and how it shaped his views on life. He said that the country is "full of diverse, talented, and incredibly decent people" and believes that "we have the right to vote and have our voices heard." While competing for office, he traveled to 91 counties in Indiana, and

found that not once did he receive a negative response or welcome. This had a major effect on him, and allowed him to see how much positivity impacts people. He then went on to explain how we are all human and want to be treated equally. We all seek the same things, and we should drop any barriers that we have to get to know one another. He emphasized multiple times throughout his speech that we should be empathetic, compassionate and understanding towards everyone in our lives. Osili compared his examples to King and said that he saw this during his time. The latter half of his speech was about how we can learn from King and apply his lessons to our own lives. He focused on changing systems rather than attacking them, and that we should express leadership in order to channel our anger. The speaker ended with how we should avoid hate, and that "the chain of hate must be broken." We should learn to respect and forgive, rather than hate, in order to make the world a better place and follow in the footsteps of Martin Luther King, Jr.

The program concluded with speeches and gifts of appreciation for Osili from Thomas and senior Disha Roddy. Next, a song performed by Bobbie Sue McDaniel and Tabby Spurlock. Fr. Vince Wirtner, the college's Chaplain, gave the closing prayer.

These events promoted the importance being kind to one another and that violence is never the answer, but rather persistence, positive thinking, and hard work.

## SJC to Perform *The Mousetrap*

By John Irak

Guest Writer

Pumas in the theatre department have been working towards another production. In February SJC will be putting on *The Mousetrap*, and the cast is working towards another successful show. With nearly six weeks of rehearsals wrapping up, the show is almost ready for February 2.

The show was originally written by Agatha Christie and tells the story of Giles and Mollie Ralston, a recently married couple opening their newly acquired and refurbished guest manor. As the guests begin to arrive, the radio announces a murder that took place in London earlier. Every character from the eccentric Christopher Wren, to the wild and mysterious Mr. Paravicini all have some form of a connection to the murder. When they discover

that the Monkswell Manor's telephone line has been cut, all communication to the outside world has been removed until Sgt. Trotter, a police officer, could ski through the snow to make it to the manor. After one guest is murdered, Trotter and the rest of the guests must work together to discover which of the seemingly innocent guests were responsible for the murder.

*Mousetrap* is currently the longest running show with 65 years and over 26,000 performances since opening in 1952 and is even still being run in London theatres. Director John Rahe has been working hard to provide the direction to this cast and do his part in offering another great show to the SJC community. This show is working with a strong cast of

talented faces that Pumas would recognize from previous shows like "Picnic", "Anything Goes", and "Arsenic and Old Lace" as well as some newcomers to the stage at Saint Joe. It offers a very diverse group of actors with nearly the entire cast being filled with underclassmen. John Irak, (Major Metc, lf) spoke about the cast and how the show is different from the other productions he's been involved with at SJC, "When I saw the cast list I was surprised to see a bunch of new names I haven't worked with before. I think that this cast gives a great example of how our theatre program offers the same opportunities to underclassmen as they would for seniors."

This program is willing to let anyone have the chance to perform. This show expresses the

work that the cast has struggled and enjoyed for the entire rehearsal process. The theatre department has come together to bring Agatha Christie's story to life. This is a story that needs to be seen on stage to get the experience of a thriller that offers a fantastic mystery. It's not a show to miss.

If you're interested in solving the mystery, as these people do, make sure to come see *The Mousetrap* at the College Theatre located in the Evans Arts and Science Building Thursday, Friday, or Saturday February 2-4 at 7:30. SJC students, faculty, and staff are admitted free. If you have any questions about SJC's theatre program or about the upcoming play, you can email director John Rahe at [johnr@saintjoe.edu](mailto:johnr@saintjoe.edu)

# Admissions, Student Financial Services, and the Registrar Relocate

By Natalie Dziadosz

News Writer

As many students may have noticed, there have been many changes to Halleck Student Center over the past few months. The new Jazzman's and store, which is now called the Shoppes at Collegeville, was updated over the summer and earlier during first semester. The new and improved Shoppes had their grand opening and ribbon cutting a couple of weeks ago. Following

these renovations, there was also a big move involving the Registrar, Student Financial Services, and the Admissions department. These departments have moved to where the old college store used to be and are combined in one location, now called the Enrollment Management Center. When asked about the moving process, Director of Admissions, Brian Studebaker had this to say: "The IT Department and Physical Plant really made things come together with this move. They went above

and beyond the call of duty."

The move to Halleck Center, though relatively recent, has been well-received by students and staff. "From an admissions standpoint," Studebaker said, "it makes it easier [to bring] the Registrar and the Admissions departments together. It has also made for a more welcoming work environment for us to be more productive."

As a student, it makes things much easier for a more one-stop-shop feel. If you need to go to the Registrar, you no longer have to plan to walk across campus. Junior, Business Administration major, Jessica Good had this to say about the new move: "I think that it's great idea to have everything in one spot. Now it's much easier if you have to go to Financial Aid and the Registrar in the same day you don't have to walk across campus." Now, being in the middle of campus, the staff is better able to serve us, the students. As Brian Studebaker said, it helps the staff become more productive, as well as the students.

"Current students are the

really the face of this college,"

Studebaker added. "Now that Admissions is in the heart of campus, prospective students can really get a look at what it's like to be a student. Current students can also see the 'behind the scenes' of the all the departments." When asked what he would like students to

know about the new setup Mr. Studebaker had this to say, "It's still a work in progress. We're trying to make it a central one-stop-shop resource for student's needs."



Above: The new Enrollment Management Center's waiting area

Photo courtesy of Natalie Dziadosz



Above: Director of Admissions, Brian Studebaker, checks in with the secretary at the front desk

Photo Courtesy of Natalie Dziadosz

## "Wood" You Like to be a Resident Assistant?

By Angelica Arizmendi

News Writer

Through Wednesday February 1, 2017, the Department of Residence Life will be accepting applications for any student interested in being a resident assistant (RA) next semester. Any full time student who has lived on campus for at least one semester and has maintained a 2.8 GPA or higher is eligible to apply.

There are between 28-32 resident assistant positions available for the upcoming semester. Applicants will be required to submit an application for the position, participate in individual and group interviews, and provide a resume and a personal statement.

New to the RA hiring process this year, applicants will be asked "more direct, personal statement questions in order to paint a clear picture of what the applicant can bring to the department" says Residence Life Coordinator Chris Smith.

When applying for the position, it is important to know that there is an intensive and beneficial training program that RAs must complete in the fall, which lasts between 2-3 weeks. There is also a modified training program in January. Qualified applicants possess great communication and leadership

skills, have positive energy, are honest, and are community-builders.

Being an RA brings about a certain level of responsibility which involves reporting any misconduct in the residence hall, completing duty logs, hosting monthly programs, and holding informational meetings for all of the residents living in the residence hall.

The toughest part of being an RA is "finding the confidence to handle situations. After you find it though, it makes the job a lot easier," says Head Resident Assistant Tommy Myers.

Even though there is a lot of responsibilities, there are various reasons why students should consider applying for an RA position. An RA works towards making students'

living experiences on campus memorable, safe, and as easy as possible. Being an RA will give students the chance to truly make a difference in someone's life and experience here on campus. "A lot of upperclassmen think back to those who have influenced them during their time at SJC, and they can usually remember at least one or two RA's who were positive role models," said Smith. Students should also consider the benefits of having their own single room, as well as receiving a small stipend for all of their hard work. RA's also benefit from gaining leadership experience that will be a great addition to a resume'.

"My advice to anyone considering applying for the

position would be to stay organized and be yourself," says Noll Resident Assistant Jessica Robinson.

Noll Resident Assistant Shalom Paulino comments, "I think they are looking for students who are willing to think outside the box. Someone who is confident in their abilities to handle situations."

"Each RA can make the position truly what they desire by putting as much or as little into the position as they want. Even if you don't fully meet the requirements or are nervous, you should apply and go through the process to gain valuable experience," said Smith.

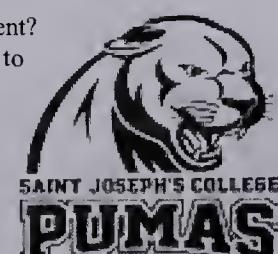
Right: Applications are due February 1st

Photo courtesy of Housing and Residence Life

## Upcoming Puma Events!

- January 26 - eSports Department Callout
- January 26-29 - Kairos 75
- January 27 - Weekday Discover Days
- January 28 - Fellows Appreciation Day
- February 2, 3, & 4 - The Mousetrap

Want to get the word out about your event? Email the date and name of your event to Casey Snow at [csnow@saintjoe.edu](mailto:csnow@saintjoe.edu) or Alyssa Cook at [acw10024@saintjoe.edu](mailto:acw10024@saintjoe.edu)!



# Opinion

## A Preaceful Transition of Power

By Stephen Nickel  
Opinions Writer

On Friday, January 20th, 2017, I had the privilege to visit Washington D.C. and attend the inauguration of the 45th President of the United States, Donald J. Trump. Regardless of your political beliefs, it is still a historic day, when arguably the most powerful person in the world peacefully transitions power to another, regardless of differences in political ideologies. While the actual transition of power occurred without incident, the argument could be made that this inauguration was far from peaceful.

The divide in our country, which I believe to be at an all-time high, was clearly evident on Inauguration Day. There is not one side that bears the blame because both conducted themselves poorly at times. The most notable incident is of course the protestors in Washington D.C. that destroyed property and assaulted police officers and Trump supporters. This type of behavior is not only a disgrace to our country, but also is extremely damaging to the cause the protestors claim to be fighting for. Not only does it cause more

hate, but these protestors will be charged with felony rioting, thereby ensuring their voice will never be heard, since they will be barred from voting if convicted. It is a lose-lose situation.

On the other hand, Trump supporters are far from innocent. While it is okay to celebrate and express your opinion, the supporters at times went above and beyond. I was in the crowd at the inauguration, and I cringed

several times during the festivities, particularly when the crowd booed when Clinton came out, as well as during Chuck Schumer's speech. There is a point when you have to realize that you have won and should behave with some respect. I give Hilary Clinton credit for still attending the Inauguration, despite the fact she knew something like that was bound to happen.

Despite the bad apples on

both sides, Inauguration Day celebrated the greatness of America. People from across the country came together to witness one of the greatest and most amazing events in the history of democracy. Hopefully, we can all now put aside our differences and work with the current administration to "Make America Great Again."



*Above: Donald Trump (R), alongside his wife Melania, was sworn in as the 45th president of the United States on Friday, January 20th.*

*Photo courtesy of Google Images.*

## The Subjectivity Of Truth

By Brianna Velasco  
Opinions Writer

I wonder if facts still exist. Everyone today is so caught up with avoiding offense to anyone, maintaining political correctness, and averting tensions. But with all of these superficial attempts at social harmony, haven't we neglected the facts? Haven't we forgotten that there is actually a right and wrong, a good and bad, a true and untrue? We seem to ignore the facts unless they correspond to what we are doing and what society deems correct; they must reaffirm our preexisting beliefs, rather than challenge them. Otherwise, it appears they are not facts, but have become opinions.

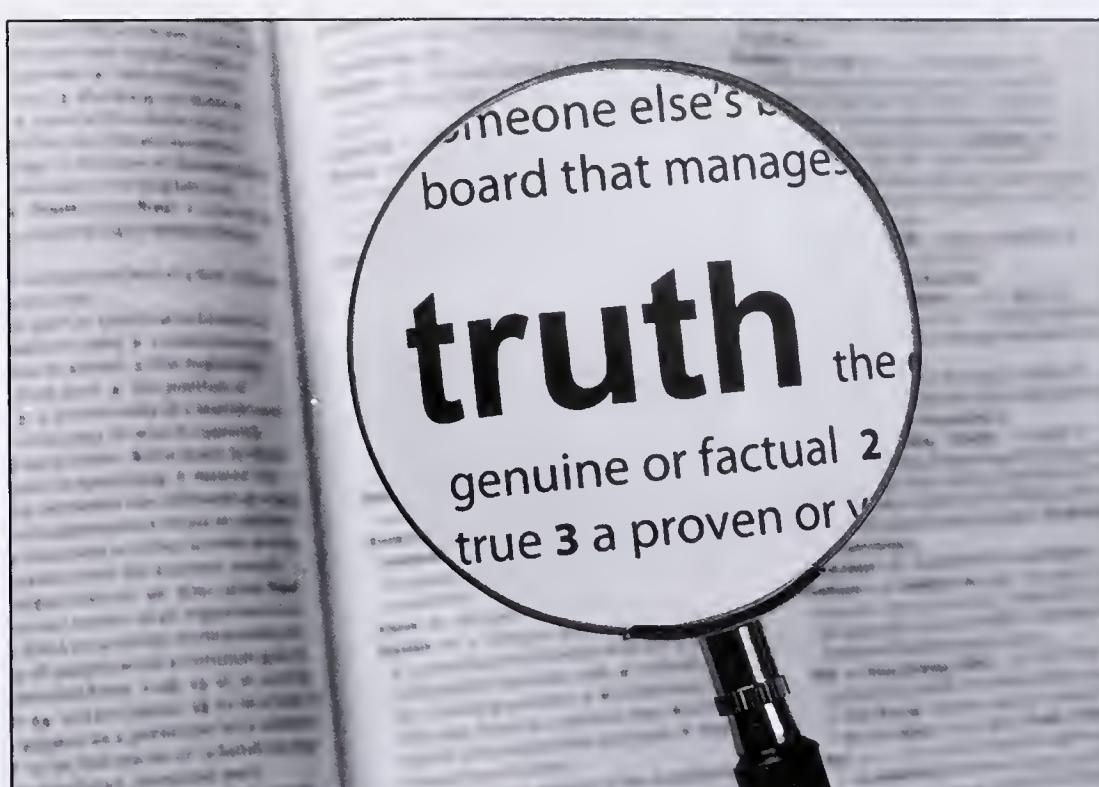
But how can something that is quite clearly black and white, so to speak, become so gray? Many arguments arise from statements which should never have become debatable. It would be like walking through the rain and claiming that it is a clear, dry day. Some things are simply false. And yet despite this, we have taken to choosing our facts — which differ from person to person to ensure tranquility within a community — and we carefully select our truths. How can we expect to advance as a society if we cannot agree to obvious and verifiable truths, such

as those that a wall is hard and a shirt is cloth? That a fetus is alive and each person is born to one of two genders, whether or not they feel otherwise? This is not to say that even with real facts, there would not be debates over right and wrong or arguments about what to do in each situation. Nor am I suggesting that there is something wrong with those of us who believe baseless "facts,"

because we cannot be to blame when we have been raised in a society convinced of the subjectivity of truth. But at least if we came to see that there is indeed a line between fact and opinion, we might be able to make our arguments on the same truths and learn to better respect each other.

There will never be a time when everyone on earth, or even

two individuals, will agree on every issue. We're simply too diverse and different-minded for that. But if we can all agree on the absolute, indisputable truths that do exist, maybe, just maybe, we can begin to work toward a peaceful social harmony. Because if we know what the facts are, maybe it will be easier to respect the true opinions.



*Above: The definition of "truth"*

*Image courtesy of Google Images.*

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We, the newspaper staff of *The Observer*, while exercising our First Amendment rights to freedom of speech, promise to adhere to the highest journalistic standards. *The Observer* will not print articles, editorials, or other material that misquote or misrepresent members or organizations within the Saint Joseph's College community. While constantly striving to meet these goals, we can and will print retractions amending or remedying any problems brought to our attention.

**11.22.63**

**By Bronte Eather**  
*Features Writer*

With an opportunity to save the life of a President, high school teacher Jake Epping travels back in time to the 60's in an attempt to prevent the assassination of John F. Kennedy. Stephen King's novel *11/22/63* follows the life of Jake for 5 years while he lives in the 60s and discovers truths about the people surrounding Kennedy at the time of his death.

The novel, published in 2011, quickly reached best-seller status and has now been turned into a mini-series starring James Franco. And, no surprise when reading King, there are many twists and turns that Jake must face with his constant battle between him and time. The more the past is tampered with, the more it affects Jake, leaving him injured, heartbroken, and always having a target on his back.

This book isn't one to read overnight. Being over 700 pages long, *11/22/63* is split into five sections; breaking the story up and creating varying situations that happen in Jake's life. Breaking the story up keeps it interesting as you continue to read and reach the end of each section, knowing major turning points are arising. And they do! You are continuously taken through multitudes of emotions when Jake is faced with a challenge, whether it be big like meeting Lee Harvey

Oswald, or small like teaching a class at school. King is able to bring such great emotion to the smallest of events and keeps the reader totally engaged throughout the entire story.

King uses callbacks and foreshadowing to ignite ideas in the reader's mind in the beginning of the story, and pieces of evidence are slowly realized throughout. This creates a constant unknowing of the ending, but the reader also becomes a kind of detective trying to make sense of the small clues that are revealed.

With the majority of the story being set in the late 50's and early 60's, we are provided an insight of how to live in the past. We share common ground with Jake as he attempts to discover how to adapt to life in the past. We struggle with Jake to learn the slang and find out where he needs to go and how to get there.

King's *11/22/63* uses his sci-fi writing to give a historical look at life in the 60's and also provides information about people living at that time. Using universal themes of the power of love, time, and questioning our morals and ethics, King is able to provide a story that will keep you asking questions about what you would have done knowing how the present is affected by the past.

## The Hub Conundrum

**By Vivian Myers**  
*Features Editor*

Have you ever thought about the amount of work that the Sodexo workers do in the Hub? Every day, students and faculty demand a lot of attention and effort from the Hub workers. Even though there are some students that vocally appreciate the workers, it will never be enough for the amount of work that we students ask them to do.

Before the workday even starts, there is prep work that needs to be done. The bread for sub sandwiches has to be made before the doors open so there's fresh bread for everyone. To have fresh vegetables they have to be cleaned and cut every day. Wraps, chicken, deli meat, and other items have to be taken out of freezers and refrigerators to thaw in preparation for a new day. Ice cream has to be brought up from the basement freezer and cookies have to be made by our all-time favorite Hub worker, Alice.

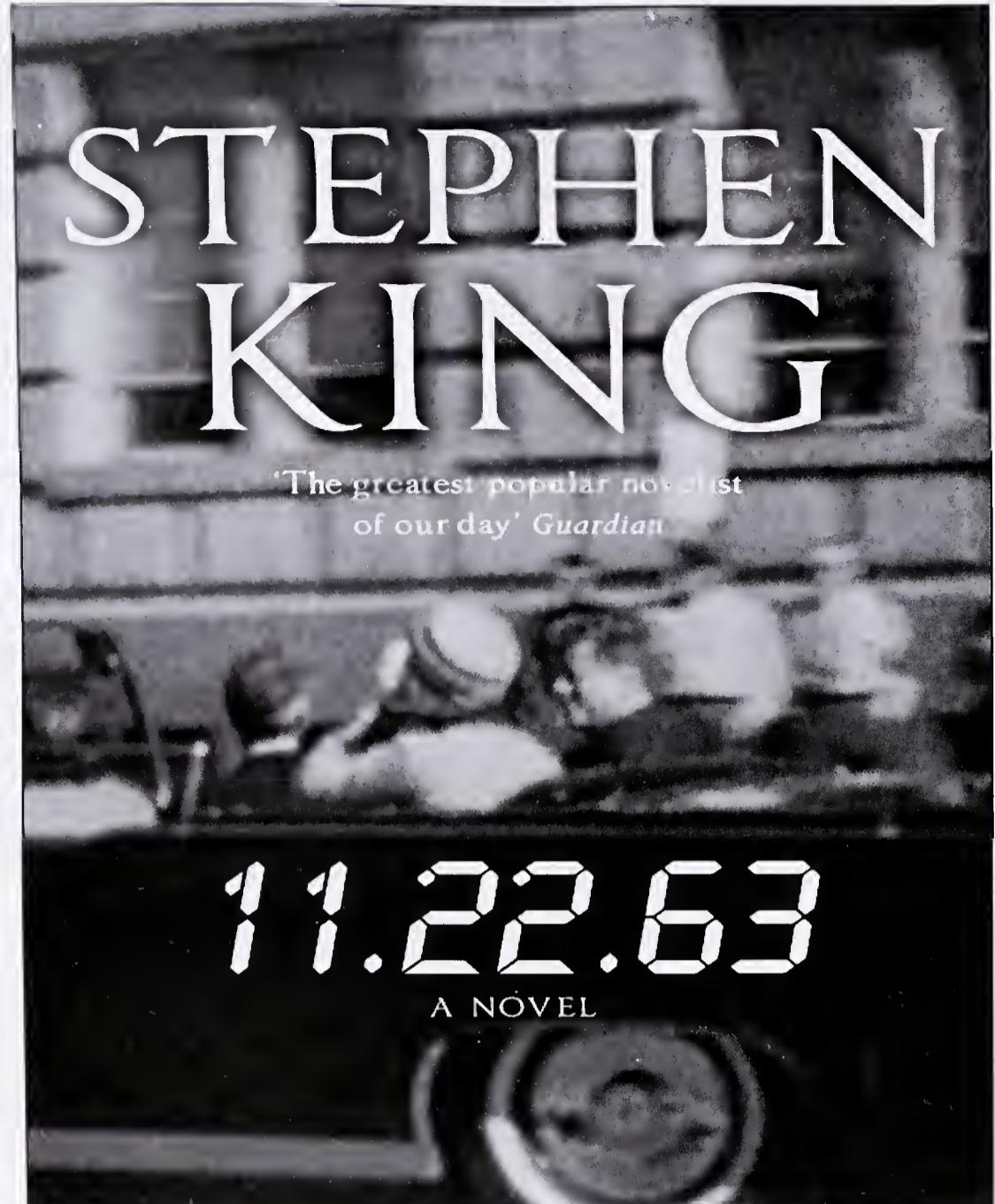
When students, faculty, and other customers come into the Hub, there is a new list of jobs for the workers to accomplish. Each employee has an assigned job, as I'm sure we've all noticed. Alice is the cashier; her job entails taking your order, keeping a level head with customers, and enforcing a steady work pace with the other employees. The grill workers cook two kinds of

fries, hamburgers, quesadillas, mozzarella sticks, and corn dogs while the sub workers make salads, subs, wraps, pizzas, and bosco sticks.

We can look at what they do and think, "That's super easy". Is it really as easy as we think it is? Think about what goes into a single salad. You have to get the specified lettuce, protein, and dressing. Then you have to call the customer so they can tell you everything else that they want. Remember you have to do this with every single customer that comes into the Hub during your shift.

As a customer all you have to do is stand in line, order your food, wait on the workers to get to your order, and then specialize your order. It's a very simple, stress-free process. Imagine going through that process a hundred times in one night. It doesn't sound like much fun at all. The Hub workers have to do just that. While they go through a few different processes preparing different kinds of food, they are still making food and having to serve college students.

The next time you venture to the Hub because you think you'll get better service or better food, think about all the work that the employees have to do to make your visit fit the standards that keep you coming back for more.



Above: A cover for Stephen King's novel *11.22.63*. Photo courtesy of Google Images.

## Shameless

**By Justice McGee**  
*Features Writer*

If you have Twitter or Facebook, I'm sure you've seen the hype about the TV show *Shameless*. Though the show first aired in 2011, it hasn't become that popular until a few days ago when just about every teenager and young adult on the internet began posting about it. Once the many statuses began popping up about the TV show, more and more people began watching it. I will admit, it also caught my attention and therefore, I gave the TV show a try.

*Shameless* was, at first, one of those shows that kept popping up in your Netflix. You read the info and pass on it, going to something else. That's how it was for me, anyway. I kept seeing the show pop up, but I was never interested in watching it because I thought it was just about a drunken old man. I was wrong.

The description of the show completely throws you off from the actual plot. It's not totally about a drunk, old man. It shows you much more about the lives of his children. It's a show with a misleading description that you'd need recommended to you before you'd give it a shot.

I personally enjoy the show. Once I watched the first few episodes, I was hooked. I started the series only three days ago and I'm already on the second season. It's a show that you can't



Above: A promotional image for season five of *Shameless*. Photo courtesy of IMDB.com.

should give *Shameless* a shot if you haven't already. It's a very addicting show. It may not seem all that interesting at first glance, but once you crack open the first episode, I guarantee you will be sucked in and through the first two seasons within a few days. It's right there on Netflix!

Overall, I think that you

# features

## La La Land

**By Danata Paulino**

*Features Writer*

"This is the dream! It's conflict and it's compromised, it's very, very exciting!" Golden Globe winner Ryan Gosling's character couldn't have been any more right. Walking into the movie theatre, I would have never guessed what a success director Damien Chazelle, having also directed Whiplash, would be directing La La Land.

There was a definite inkling that it would have success with its musical and Broadway fan base, its lead actor, Ryan Gosling, and fellow Golden Globe winner, Emma Stone. But, the response that this film received was more than outstanding. I myself had to hunt down a movie theatre that was showing it. It was well worth the \$7.50 ticket and even felt underpriced after seeing the show that is now astonishing crowds across the country.

At the very start of the film, I was instantly questioning the quality and cheesiness of the

storyline. The first two numbers of the movie were not only overwhelmingly choreographed but quite dramatic as well. I always appreciate a good dance number but was curious how the "High School Musical" like La La Land was going to rise above its overdramatic tones. I looked over to my not-as-musically-inclined friends and wondered if they were going to find it enjoyable. However, as the beginning of the actual storyline involving Gosling's character, Sebastian, and Stone's character, Mia, began to unfold, the extravagant numbers settled down quite a bit. Emma Stone played the struggling actress Mia, who just wants to get the role that will spark her career. Stone has always had such a bold personality on screen and this role was no disappointment. Her vocal talent was quite impressive as the film progressed, and the chemistry between Stone and Ryan Gosling, who played Sebastian, was undeniable.

Sebastian is a jazz enthusiast

pianist who believes he can bring the style back by opening his own jazz club. Adding to the impressiveness of his acting, Gosling actually played all of the piano shots for the film. Stone and Gosling are quiet the dynamic duo.

It had a similar feel to that of the old musical films such as *Singin' in the Rain*, with its fade-ins and soft cinematography. Therefore, it was no surprise that many questioned the success of the film due to its vintage tone. This really made it a breath of fresh air in comparison to the many similarly categorized movies today. Music composer and Golden Globe winner Justin Hurwitz, who also worked with Chazelle on Whiplash, created a fascinating score and jazz essence to the project. With intoxicating instrumental numbers and memorable vocal duets the soundtrack will no doubt become a bestseller.



Above: *La La Land* movie poster.  
Photo courtesy of Google Images.

## Unleashed

**By Wesley Hutson**

*Features Writer*

Have you ever wanted something to listen to that was more substantial than what the pop charts were throwing at you? (Sorry, pop artists, but you know it's true.) If your answer was yes, then I would recommend Skillet's tenth studio album, *Unleashed*. Skillet is a mainstream Christian rock group, and the message of Jesus is present beneath the surface of their music, though in some tracks it is more obvious than others. *Unleashed* was released on August 5, 2016, making it available for as long as the current freshmen have been on campus, so there are few excuses for not hearing of it by now.

This album is a journey for the listener as well as the band. Conceptually, *Unleashed* picks up where *Rise* left off with the faith reaffirmed at the end of the latter album now being used to actually do something in the former. The gifts given before make the listener "Feel Invincible," capable of accomplishing anything, so much so that the WWE chose "Feel Invincible" as the official theme song for the 2016 Battleground pay-per-view event on July 24, 2016. John Cooper, the band's lead vocalist, bassist, and co-founder, said that that track in particular "represents the album in one facet really well: [*Unleashed*] is full of crowd-chanting anthems. The album is very exciting to listen to. Driving beats and melodic choruses, whether it's hard rock or leaning toward pop." He also commented on how the album had varying genre types, from



Above: Album cover to Skillet's *Unleashed*.  
Image courtesy of Google Images.

metal to pop and that he wanted the music to feel very connected to the lyrics. "[The album is] quite diverse," he said, "there are more extreme songs on both sides of the spectrum, meaning harder rock and even metal, but also pop and atmospheric tunes/sounds."

The last track, "The Resistance" talks about how the faith not only has given people this feeling of invincibility, as is the case with the first track, but that it has grown beyond the first and into a community that is also inspired by the faith. This community follows the mentality of Saint Paul: "If Christ is for us,

then who can be against us?" One thing that can connect all the tracks is their tone. John Cooper commented that "the songs are very aggressive, very in-your-face," though they are still very heavily influenced by the band's Christian background.

All of the tracks, in one form or another, described how the belief in God has left the listener and the band unfettered by worries, both large and small. The track "Lions" describes it perfectly: "If we're going to fear, we'll fear no evil." So fear no evil, and listen.

## Freaks and Geeks

**By Justin Hays**

*Features Writer*

For many, high school was just a springboard for greater things to come in life. Sure, there were enjoyable experiences from those four years – football games, dances, and new relationships, but there were also the struggles of cliques, awkwardness, and trying to find an identity. There are many ups and downs to the high school experience, and many television series in the past have tried to capture what makes those years so unique. None have been as astute as the short-lived series, *Freaks and Geeks*. The series, running from 1999-2000, is stocked with familiar faces. James Franco, Seth Rogen, and Jason Segel are just a few of the recognizable future stars getting their start.

What makes *Freaks and Geeks* great are the relatable characters and identifiable story line. The series follows the lives of the intelligent, misunderstood Lindsay Weir and her awkward, nerdy brother Sam. Both Lindsay and Sam are simply trying to navigate the daily arena of high school. The overarching theme of the series is the struggle for identity. The Weir siblings are simply trying to find their way and where they belong. Lindsay is a former mathlete trying to find a cooler crowd to blend in with, while Sam desperately tries to integrate into the cool crowd, while pulling his even more awkward friends, Bill and Neal, along for the ride.

Lindsay's search for a new crowd brings her the friendship of the "freaks". The freaks, played by the trio of Franco, Rogen, and Segel, provide Lindsay a chance to step out of her squeaky clean image and explore the angst of being misunderstood. Sam, on the other hand, is stuck as the unofficial leader of the "geeks." Although Sam may wish he was in with the cooler crowds, he always comes back to the realization that his group of geeks provides a sturdy rock throughout the chaos of the high school years. Through the lives of the Weir siblings, viewers are given the chance to remember those many days when college couldn't come soon enough.

The charming Netflix show ends far too soon. Cancelled after one season (17 episodes), fans are left craving more. A victim of awkward TV scheduling, *Freaks and Geeks* was never able to fully reach its peak. Despite ending too soon, *Freaks and Geeks* has earned the heralded acclaim of Cult Classic. Every episode is a gem, and presents a given situation that everyone faced back in the day. Everyone is looking for a new Netflix series to binge, and *Freaks and Geeks* provides a refreshing relief in between exhausting eight-season shows. *Freaks and Geeks* reminds us that if high school was the best time of your life, then you are doing something wrong.

# Lady Puma's Turnovers Turn Back Conference Record

**Kylie Hill**  
Co-Editor-in-Chief

Saint Joseph's College Women's Basketball (8-11) begin the new semester with mixed results, losing 3 and winning 2 games since students returned to campus. Despite their losses overtaking the wins, the Lady Pumas have kept the score within a dozen points.

On January 19, 2017 the team travelled to Springfield, Illinois to face off against the University of Illinois Springfield. The Pumas defeated the Prairie Stars 65-56, earning them another

GLVC victory. The Pumas had a rough start to the game, with Springfield leading 32 - 26 at the half. However, in the third quarter, the Lady Pumas came out ready to fight, matching Springfield's 15 points, and in the fourth quarter, overpowering the Prairie Stars' 9 points by scoring 24 of their own.

Senior Biology-Chemistry major Brittany Morris and Sophomore Accounting major Lauren Ruth proved to be key players in the second half, executing three-pointers and key lay-ups. Sophomore Exercise Science major Lauren Kotey



Above: Freshman Criminal Justice major, Jamee Denman goes up for a lay-up against the University of Indianapolis on Monday, January 16, 2017. Photo courtesy of Fr. Tim McFarland.



Left: Junior Mathematics and Psychology major, Rolanda Currington keeps the ball away from Missouri S&T as she looks to pass the ball. Photo courtesy of Fr. Tim McFarland.

also contributed to the lead, making several baskets in a row furthering the lead in the last three minutes of the game. With two minutes left in the fourth quarter Senior Business Administration major Kalea Parks fouled out of the game, but not before scoring an impressive 15 points and grabbing 8 rebounds. Despite their tough start, the Pumas weren't afraid to give it their all, bringing themselves back up to .500 in the GLVC.

After their amazing comeback a few days before, the Pumas fell to the Lady Bearcats of McKendree University on January 21, 2017. The Lady Pumas left Lebanon, Illinois with a 63-54 loss giving them a 4-5 record in the GLVC.

The Pumas and the Bearcats

ended the first quarter in a tie, 13-13. In the second quarter, the Pumas began to fall behind. Due to multiple turnovers by the Pumas, McKendree held a strong lead throughout the second quarter.

Despite the team loss, individual Lady Pumas showed their strengths; Parks scored a total of 21 points and grabbed 6 rebounds in her 38 minutes of play and Junior Rolanda Currington scored 11 points in her 22 minutes of play.

The Pumas will play Thursday, January 26 at home against the University of Southern Indiana in hopes of gaining their .500 record in the GLVC.

## Men's Basketball Continues to Fight for Wins in the GLVC

**By Christine Manika**  
Sports Writer  
and Kylie Hill  
Co-Editor-in-Chief

The Saint Joseph's College Men's Basketball took home two wins in the GLVC in these last few weeks since students returned from winter break: Missouri S&T and University of Illinois Springfield.

On Saturday, January 14, the Pumas were back in action at home taking on the Missouri S&T Miners. The game was full of intensity and the shot clock was unpredictable throughout the game. However, the Pumas came out on top of the Miners

88-76. Saint Joseph's defense came out hot and the fire grew throughout the game.

Junior Guard Kindred Williams was two rebounds short from completing his third double-double. Even though Williams wasn't able to enter into double-digits, four of his teammates were able to, helping to secure a Puma victory. In the start of the game, the Miners took control of the Pumas by leading six points.

The Pumas were able to take over the final 10 minutes of the half to take the lead. Junior Guard Eric Gillespie was able to make it a tie game by swishing a three-pointer. Williams then

Right: Junior Sports Management major, Davone Daniels, drives the ball towards the basket. Photo courtesy of Fr. Tim McFarland.



tipped the balance raising the Pumas' score to 32 by driving in a lay-up. Junior Guard Davone Daniels and Sophomore Forward Nick Jeffirs drove in more shots bringing the score to 38-32 at the half.

The second half became with the same unstoppable offense. Williams came out of the locker-room with a steal and drove straight to the basket, scoring a bucket for the Pumas. The Miners, even after a timeout, continued to struggle throughout the half; the Miners defense was not able to contain the Puma offense long enough to give their own offense a chance to get them back in the game.

In the final two minutes of the game, the Pumas led the Miners 85-64. In a Hail Mary attempt, the Miners took a successful three point shot, but were not able to score any more points to overtake

On Thursday, January 19, Saint Joseph's College earned another win against the



Above: Sophomore Economics major, Nick Jeffirs, goes for the rebound against two University of Indianapolis players on January 16. Photo courtesy of Fr. Tim McFarland.

The Men's Basketball team will host The University of Southern Indiana at home on Thursday January, 26 at 7:30 pm to compete in another GLVC game.

Hopefully the Pumas, despite their loss to McKendree University on Saturday, January 21, will remember their earlier victories and bring that spirit.

### Upcoming Events

#### January 26

Women's Basketball vs University of Southern Indiana 5:30pm

Men's Basketball vs University of Southern Indiana 7:30pm

#### January 28

Men's Track and Field vs Grand Valley State University in Allendale, MI

Women's Track and Field vs Grand Valley State University in Allendale, MI

Women's Basketball vs Bellamine University 1:00pm

Men's Basketball vs Bellamine University 3:00pm

#### February 2

Women's Basketball at Quincy University 5:30pm

Men's Basketball at Quincy University 7:30pm

#### February 3

Men's Track and Field vs Hillsdale College in Hillsdale, MI

Women's Track and Field vs Hillsdale College in Hillsdale, MI

#### February 4

Men's Track and Field vs Hillsdale College in Hillsdale, MI

Women's Track and Field vs Hillsdale College in Hillsdale, MI

Women's Basketball at Truman State University 1:00pm

Men's Basketball at Truman State University 3:00pm

#### February 9

Women's Basketball vs Rockhurst University 5:30 pm

Men's Basketball vs Rockhurst University 7:30pm

#### February 10

Men's Track and Field vs Grand Valley State University in Allendale, MI

Women's Track and Field vs Grand Valley State University in Allendale, MI

# Pumas Compete at Baker's Life Fieldhouse

**Kylie Hill**  
Co-Editor-in-Chief

The Men and Women's Basketball teams traveled to Banker's Life Fieldhouse, home of the Indiana Pacers of the National Basketball Association and the Indiana Fever of the Women's National Basketball Association on Monday, January 16 to compete against their rivals, The University of Indianapolis Men and Women's Basketball teams. Tip off for the Lady Pumas was at 5:30pm after the Pacers game, followed by the men at 7:30pm.



Above: Pumas watch the game at Baker's Life Fieldhouse.  
Photo courtesy of Fr. Tim McFarland

Unfortunately, both teams fell to the Greyhounds, the men 98-75 and the women 83-44. Both Saint Joseph's College teams could not keep up with the Greyhounds' strong offenses. Both teams got behind early on, and the Greyhounds kept driving the ball to the baskets and swishing 3-pointers.

Despite the losses, the Pumas had a lot of support at Banker's life Stadium. Saint Joseph's College faculty, staff, and students were invited to travel to the stadium to watch the Pumas face off against UIIndy. In addition to the college games, fans'

tickets also covered admission to the Indiana Pacers vs. New Orleans Pelicans game at 3:00pm, which preceded the women's game.

Senior Jackie Leeuw was invited to sing the National Anthem. She said "It was a really awesome experience to sing at Bankers Life for the basketball games. Jackie Paquette of the University of Indianapolis was great in making it happen and allowing me to sing. I'm incredibly grateful for the opportunity and hopefully will be able to do it again for a Pacers game sometime!" Senior Jose Arteaga also attended the game to support his fellow Pumas. He said of his experience, I loved seeing our Pumas play, but watching them play at Bankers Life on a NBA court was really cool to watch. The atmosphere was great!"

Even though Saint Joseph's College did not return home with victories, they still enjoyed the opportunity to experience a game played on a professional court.

## Athlete Spotlight: Amir Wright

By Hannah Wallace  
Sports Editor



Photo courtesy of SJC Athletics

Amir Wright is a freshman baseball player from Griffith, Indiana. Wright is majoring in accounting and plays outfield for the Pumas.

**Q: How long have you been playing baseball?**

**A:** I started playing at the age of five years old. I played because my parents wanted me to try different sports as a child.

**Q: What are your goals for this season?**

**A:** My goals for the upcoming season are for the team to win a GLVC title and to win a National Championship

**Q: What is your favorite basketball memory?**

**A:** My favorite memories up to this point is practicing and hanging out with my teammates.

**Q: What are your hobbies?**  
**A:** My hobbies are sleeping and listening to music

**Q: Do you have any rituals you do to pump you up for a game?**

**Q: Why did you choose Saint Joseph's College?**

**A:** The coaching staff here at St. Joseph's College is amazing. They are tough and push you everyday to become a better ball player. Also, the academics here at St. Joseph's College fit right into what I was looking for.

**Q: Who is your role model and why?**

**A:** My role model is my dad. He is someone I have looked up to for as long as I can remember. He has not only helped me develop as a baseball player, but also as a man.

**Q: Favorite song?**  
**A:** "Good Life" by Kanye West

**Q: What is your favorite thing about SJC basketball?**

**A:** The coaches and team mates who are very supportive, that we are going to kick some butt this year, and get some wins so we can go to the NCAA tournament.

# Puma Track and Field Begins Indoor with a Bang

**Hannah Wallace**  
Sports Editor

The Saint Joseph's College track team started off their indoor meet season Friday, January 13th at the Northwest Ohio Invitational hosted by the University of Findlay. The Pumas had many promising performances. While their indoor season does hold a NCAA Conference Championship, all of this training

in January is prepping them for their outdoor conference in May.

Saint Joseph's Phil Thompson walked away from the meet with a national qualifying mark of 15 meters in the triple jump. Right behind him was Tevin Riddle with a mark of 14.30 meters. Riddle also finished 2nd place in high jump with a jump of 1.98 meters.

For the women, Cassidy West, a sophomore from Cambridge City, IN, finished 7th in the long jump while senior Lydia Raderstorf finished second in pole vault with a vault of 3.32 meters.

Both the men and women began the 2017 season with several impressive performances in distance running. In the 3000 meter run, juniors Brooke Werstler and Meghan Hennessey finished fourth and fifth, taking the lead for Puma distance. Both Left: Freshman Hannah Dawson racing in the 1600m run.  
Photo Courtesy of Tim McFarland

ladies finished with times under 11:20.

The men's most forceful event was the 1600 meter run where senior Brian Burton ended with a respective third place finish of 4:28, closely followed by his teammate Justin Hays at 4:36 for a seventh place score.

The area that both coaches and teammates agreed showed immense improvement from previous years was the Men's 4x400 meter relay - ran by Thomas Jones, Demar Malcolm, Sean Thompson, and Kiente Geiger - which finished fourth with a time of 3:27.9.

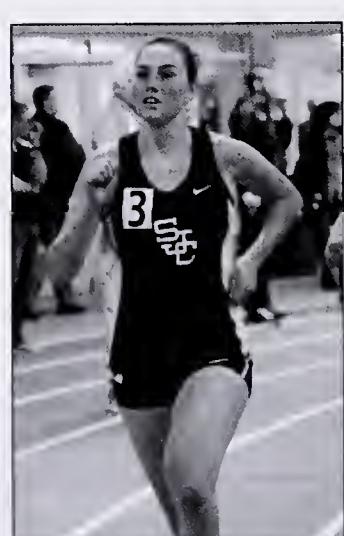
As every new season begins, there are returning athletes and some new faces. "The team so far has been doing great and many people have made personal records in the past 2 meets," says senior Katie Dugan. "I'm excited to see how far Saint Joseph's College Track & Field will go during the remaining indoor season."



Above: Sophomore Dalton Good throwing  
Photo Courtesy of Tim McFarland

The Pumas had their second competition at Indiana Wesleyan University last Saturday on January 21st. Like the first meet, there were even more impressive performances and school records broken. The Pumas will compete at the Bob Eubanks Open held by

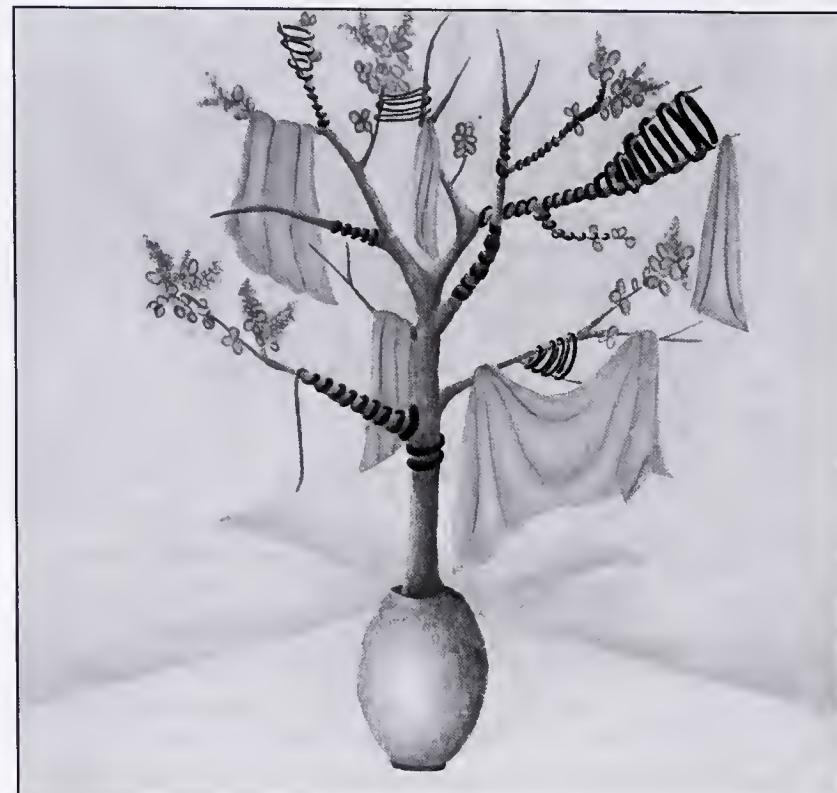
Grand Valley State University in Allendale, Michigan on Saturday, January 28th.



### Spring Awakening

By: Samantha Hoyt

The sky is blue, the warm breeze blows  
The sun shines bright to prove it knows  
It knows! It knows today's the day  
That all my fears have gone away  
And happiness I thought was lost  
Gone with his arms, which held me close  
Through winter's nights, November's rain-  
That happiness has come again  
And love's again an ember glowing  
Warm and safe and ever knowing  
That this nightmare, too, has passed  
And spring now blooms, again, at last.



Colored Pencil Drawing By: Meghan Hennessey

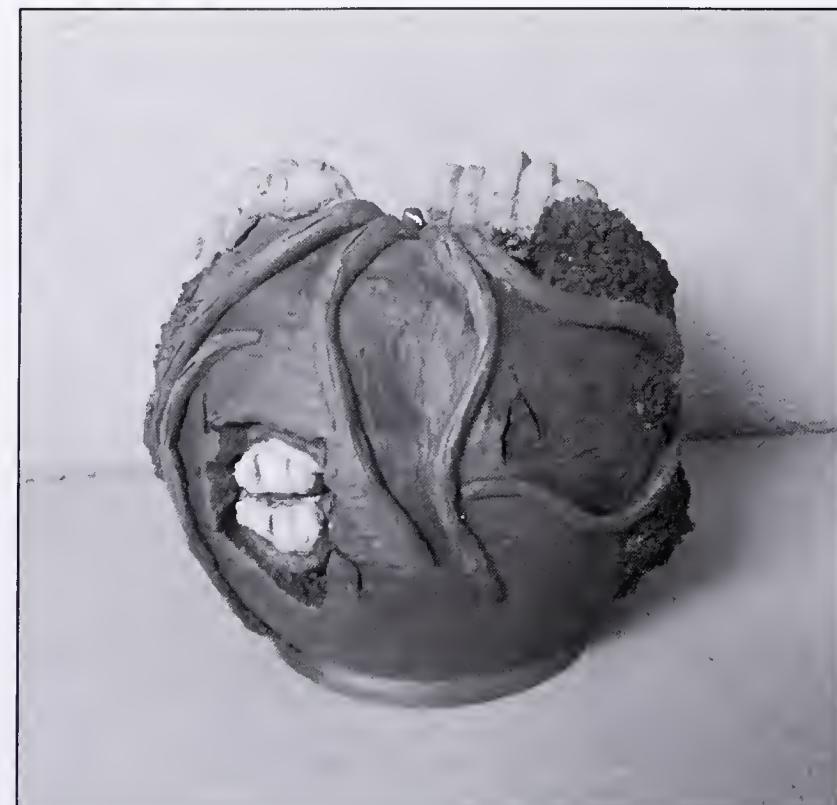
### Words, Words, Words

By: Justin Hays

Why do words fall so hopelessly short?  
Big words - amazing, incredible, beautiful.  
Moments that can be described by these words  
Seem to lose their luster when given  
Adjectives such as these.  
Only a certain degree can be added  
To distinguish between the beautiful woman  
And the beautiful sunny day.  
What separates a display of amazing strength  
From an act of amazing love?  
Why do they both get the same label - amazing.  
We overuse these adjectives until they fall  
Into meaningless hyperbole.  
How can one truly know what is incredible  
When everything seen that is remotely interesting  
Receives this description?  
Language cannot truly describe what moves us  
To happiness and despair.  
Words fall short.



Ceramic Piece By: Patience Keen



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